
THE ACTS CHURCH 2:42
"EXPERIENCE REAL CHURCH"

November 24, 2013

TEXT: *Luke 17:11-19 KJV*

And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. (12) And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: (13) And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. (14) And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. (15) And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, (16) And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. (17) And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? (18) There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. (19) And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

INTRO: *Thanksgiving*

Luke 17:11-19 is my most favorite passage in scripture concerning giving thanks or the attitude of gratitude. This story of the ten lepers who were healed by Jesus yet only one man returned to say thank you!

1 Chronicles 16:8-10 KJV

Give ***thanks*** unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people. (9) Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works. (10) Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

Psalms 92:1 KJV

A Psalm or Song for the sabbath day. It is a good thing to give ***thanks*** unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:

2 Corinthians 9:15 KJV ***Thanks*** *be* unto God for his unspeakable gift.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 KJV

In every thing give ***thanks***: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Psalms 100:1-5 KJV

A Psalm of praise. Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. (2) Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. (3) Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. (4) ***Enter into his gates with thanksgiving***, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. (5) For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

I. *As He went to Jersusalem…*

*(11) And it came to pass, as **He** went to Jerusalem, that **He** passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. (12) And as **He** entered into a certain village, there met **Him** ten men that were lepers, **which stood afar off**:*

In Levicitus 13, and 14 we have the laws that dealt with the plague of leprosy. When someone became inflicted they were to go to the priests and be examined… once they were declared to have leprosy they literally became outcasts and were required to maintain considerable distance from any and all people.

*(13) And they lifted up their voices, and said, **Jesus, Master, have mercy on us**.*

???How did they know it was Jesus??? They called Him Master – They requested His mercy.

Lamentations 3:22-23 KJV

It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. (23) They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

*(14) And when **He** saw them, **He** said unto them, **Go shew yourselves unto the priests**. And it came to pass, that, **as they went, they were cleansed**.*

A testing of their faith?? They literally had to put feet to their faith!!!

Obedience precedes blessings (14) as they went, they were cleansed

II. *NAAMAN… BUT HE WAS A LEPER*

2 Kings 5:1-16 KJV

Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but ***he was a leper***. (2) And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife. (3) And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is ***in Samaria***! for he would recover him of his leprosy. (4) And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel. (5) And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment. (6) And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy. (7) ***And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy?*** wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me. (8) And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel. (9) So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. (10) And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, ***Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean***. (11) But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. (12) Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage. (13) And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean? (14) ***Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.*** (15) And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and

he said, Behold, now I know that ***there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel***: now therefore, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy servant. (16) But he said, As the LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it; but he refused.

A testing of his faith?? He too, literally had to put feet to his faith!!!

OBEDIENCE PRECEDES BLESSINGS *(14)* ***AS THEY WENT, THEY WERE CLEANSED***

Re-Read (15-16) ***He returned to give thanks!!!***

III. *ONE OF THEN – TURNED BACK*

(15) And ***ONE OF THEM****, when he saw that he was healed,* ***turned back****, and* ***with a loud voice glorified God****, (16) And* ***fell down on his face*** *at his feet,* ***giving him thanks****: and* ***he was a Samaritan****.*

True praise has no volume control – fell down on his face (total surrender)

He was not a Jew – He was an unclean half-breed, as well as and unclean leper – yet he was the only one of the ten to return to Jesus

Jesus told them to go to the priest! It was the Law!

As They Went, They Were Cleansed

John MacArthur says…

1. In Levicitus 13, and 14 we have the laws that dealt with the plague of leprosy.
 - **a.** In 14:2 ***strange words***, "This is the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing."
 - **b.** ***Leprosy is incurrable*** outside of ***divine intervention***.
 - **c.** Because God is gracious and merciful ***He left the door open for Himself to work and do that which was impossible by human standards***.
 - **d.** God may want to do something that is impossible so He left the door open to do so.
 - **e.** Some may be facing situations that seem to you to be impossible.

i. We often impose our human limitations on to God, and ***because it is difficult for us we somehow think that it is difficult for God***, or ***if it impossible for us, then we are certain that it is impossible for God***.
ii. God said to Jeremiah, ***"I am God, is anything too hard for Me?"***
iii. Jesus said, ***"With man it is impossible, but with God all things are possible."***

1 out of 10 people know how to be grateful

IV. *Only One of the Ten Was Saved*

(17) And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?
(18) There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.
(19) And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee ***whole****.*

Going All The Way with Jesus – Totally Surrendering to Jesus – Is putting yourself in position to be spiritually blessed –

Luke 13:34 KJV

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, **and ye would not!**